

Victory Times



Telling the Camp Victory story

April 13, 2006

Medics aid Iraqis at Convoy Support Center Scania

Story and photo by Spc. James P. Hunter

MNC-I PAO

Medics from the 1st Battalion, 108th Armor have many tasks. They rotate in shifts, providing medical assistance to sector patrols, sheriff stations and ground forces, and also run a medical station in a 40 ft. connex just outside the "wire" at the Convoy Support Center Scania.

This medical station isn't for Coalition troops, but for Iraqi local nationals.

On any particular day outside the medical station, many Iraqis sit on benches while others stand impatiently, waiting to be seen by U.S. medics.

On March 29, screams could be heard from a distance as tears fell from the eyes of an Iraqi child while medics pulled off the gauze that covered the burns on both his arms.

Blood ran from his right pinky finger down his arm.

The pain seemed unbearable to the child. He is young, maybe one or two-years-old.

His legs flung into the air and his body tensed as they applied an antiseptic to his burns. Two weeks prior the child was burned by hot, boiling water. One medic said as he treated the child, "It has healed a lot since we last treated him."

They wrapped him back up and advised his father to ensure the boy exercised his fingers to prevent them from crippling.

This was just another scene the Georgia Army National Guard medics deal with while treating the Iraqis at the medical station.

Three days a week they treat local Iraqis. On average, they treat 50 to 70 patients a day. On some days, 100, said Sgt. 1st Class Vincenzo Battaglia, noncommissioned officer-in-charge, medical platoon, 1st Bn., 108th Ar.

Many Iraqis come to the medical station for headaches, burns or wounds received from improvised-explosive devices or gunshots, he said.

Battaglia said many of the Iraqis know the American medics are there, so they choose them over the Iraqi doctors.

The medics were providing aid for one to two patients three days a week, said Spc. Shawn McAfee, medical plt., 1st Bn., 108th Ar., but then word spread and Iraqis started to show up.

"They think American medicine is better," Battaglia said. "It's not so much see MEDICS, page 3



Sgt. 1st Class Vincenzo Battaglia, noncommissioned officer-in-charge, 1st Battalion, 108th Armor, looks at an Iraqi childs burns at the Convoy Support Center Scania.

Camp Victory Three-day forecast

Friday



Sunny High: 92 F Low: 67 F

Saturday



Mostly Sunny High: 98 F Low: 68 F

Sunday



Partly Cloudy High: 92 F Low: 67 F

In today's *Victory Times*:

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Force Protection exercise readies troops

Story and photo by Lance Cpl. Drew Hendricks

MNC-I PAO

Sirens blare. Servicemembers and civilians alike have their protective gear close. If they want to step outside, they must be

in full protective gear, for the uniform posture has just been raised.

A force protection exercise was held here, Monday, for all Victory Base Complex tenants in order to test and evaluate their abilities to counter a terrorist attack.

"You can always improve yourself," said Maj. Tom F. Artis, 17th Field Artillery Brigade S-3. "You train like you fight."

Exercises such as these are held periodically to ensure everything will keep functioning during higher security levels.

"Base defense is critical to protecting the force and allowing the force, corps and division headquarters to prosecute the war," said Col. Carlton B. Reid Jr., VBC Garrison Commander.

Quick reaction forces, military police and all tenant forces all took part in the exercise.

Though security becomes tighter, the base is still able to function enough to complete the mission. Some luxuries are lost but priority goes to mission essential activities, said Reid.

If a mission is to be successful, everyone must play their

respective role, he said.

"This will be successful if every Soldier living and working on the complex understands their role during periods of increased force protection postures, such as an attack on the base," said Reid.

The primary objective of the exercise was to learn and evaluate in order to make things better,

said both Reid and Artis.

"Everything is about learning and improving your capabilities," said Reid. "Conditions are always changing here. Units come and go and threats change. So, as conditions change, you have to be able to execute."

This was an exercise that involved the top echelons down to the squad leader, explained Reid.

"Because of the very nature of VBC, it has to be a team effort from the top down," said Reid.

The VBC plays an integral role for the operations within Iraq, which requires a large amount of security and defense, said Artis.

"This is a battle that should the fight come here, we must be able to fend it off while simultaneously fight everywhere else. We must be able to accomplish the mission," said Reid.

According to both Reid and Artis, the exercise was a success and accomplished exactly what they hoped it would.

"The units have done a very good job in informing all their troops and civilians of the importance of this exercise," said Reid. "They are conducting their duties with a positive attitude. All the objectives we have set for this exercise have been satisfied."



Soldiers, in full protective gear, get chow to go at the Sports Oasis dining facility during a force protection exercise held on Victory Base Complex, April 10.

Do NOT Know Much About Taxes?

How much do you know about taxes? Did you know:

- The top income tax rate during World War I was 77%.
- The top income tax rate for 2005 is 35%.
- Thirty-three million tax returns were filed electronically in the year 2000.
- Over the years some very interesting things have been taxed. These include:
 - Bachelors (in England in 1695 A.D. and Missouri in 1820 A.D.)
 - o Beards (in Russia in 1702 A.D.)
 - o Cooking Oil (in Ancient Egypt in approximately 2000 B.C.)
 - Souls (in Russia in approximately 1682 A.D.)
- Each year the Internal Revenue Service distributes over eight billion pages of forms and instructions. If you laid these end-to-end, they would circle the earth twenty-eight times.
- The error rate for a paper tax return is 21 percent, but the error rate for a tax return that is filed electronically is .5 percent.
- Numerous service members across all branches of service have already accessed the services provided at the Camp Victory Tax Center.
- The Tax Center provides tax assistance and preparation for all soldiers, sailors and airmen.
- To date, servicemembers have received tens of thousands of dollars in tax credits and refunds. To see if similar credits or refunds are available to you, stop by the Tax Center, at the Learning Center, building 27B.



U.S. Army photo by Spc. James P. Hunter, MNC-I PAO

A Soldier with Company A, 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment, looks through the scope on his weapon for anti-Iraqi forces after receiving small-arms fire April 10 in Al Sinaa. The Soldiers patrol the area to build friendly relations with local Iraqis.

MEDICS-

better, but it's the knowledge the medics have."

Their choice to come to the American medics for aid is based on the inexperienced, under funded and under manned Iraqi health care system, he said.

During Saddam's regime, he would not



Spc. Shawn McAfee and Spc. Pedro Mendez, medics, 1st Battalion, 108th Armor, treat a young Iraqi child for burns with his father holding his feet. The 108th Medics treat Iraqis three days a week.

allow the Iraqi doctors to leave the country to advance with modern medicine just as the country had grown, Battaglia said.

With Coalition help and the borders opened for doctors to access other countries for medical training, the Iraqi health care system will get back on track, Battaglia said.

In the meantime though, the "highly skilled and trained medics" will continue to provide medical assistance, added Battaglia.

To keep his medics current on medicine, Battaglia receives medical studies from the U.S. to pass on to his troops to ensure the best possible treatment for Iraqis.

Currently, the medics are trying to push physical therapy to their patients during their treatments, especially on burn patients, Battaglia said.

One gentleman came in with severe burns from his upper thigh to his ankles, he said. They treated him and told him he must withstand the pain and walk on his own; unfortunately, he would not. There is a good chance he will lose his ability to walk.

Battaglia said his medics are ready and willing to treat the Iraqis.

"I tell my medics, 'you're a medic. You don't see black or white. They're all patients;

treat them the same," he explained.

McAfee said he has been treating Iraqis since he came in country.

"I've been in scenario's where I've had to treat the enemy," he said.

Battaglia remembers one scenario where they had to treat an insurgent.

A Soldier was severely wounded from an IED. While they treated him, they were treating the triggerman of the explosive, he said.

"The patient wasn't treated any differently," Battaglia explained.

He said this is an experience his medics will never experience anywhere in the world.

Everyone wants stability throughout Iraq, said McAfee.

"If you can sustain stability in a place like this, it's going to spread out," he added.

The Iraqis are very appreciative of the medic's efforts to aid the locals, said Battaglia.

Though they do not have much money, some families bring them homemade quilts, food and dessert to show their appreciation, he added.

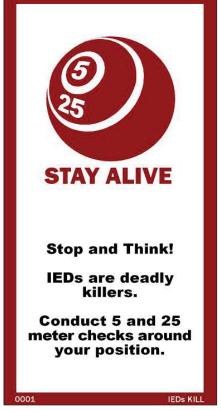
If the people of Iraq can see the compassion Americans have, "goodwill will spread," said McAfee.



A Soldier with Company A, 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment, pulls security at a home while others search the home during a patrol in Al Sinaa. Their goal during patrols is to build friendly relations with the local nationals. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. James P. Hunter, MNC-I PAO)

Iraqi Soldiers from the 3rd Battalion, 1st Brigade, 7th Division search a vehicle during a foot patrol through a village north of Ar Ramadi, April 4. The soldiers maintain a constant presence in the area, reducing the amount of enemy activity. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Jason B. Baker, MNC-I PAO)





Chaplain's Corner

To the Folks Back Home



Maj. Charles M. Herring MNC-I Chaplain Section

"I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth."

1 Timothy 2:1-4

As our country continues to secure the peace and strengthen the Iraqi people a fearfulness looms in the hearts of many Americans. There are thousands of families tearfully saying good-bye to husbands, wives, sons and daughters deployed to the entire Middle East. The potential for ambushes, IED's (Improvised Explosive Device) and suicide bombers and even terror in America, daily threaten the safety and security we as soldiers and Americans have known for many years.

How should we as Christian soldiers and Christian Americans back home respond to such a dilemma? After praying and lots of Bible study I discovered that the Bible is quite clear on this dilemma. Ecclesiastes 3:8 reminds us that there is "a time for war and a time for peace". In both war and peace God tells us not to fear. In Joshua 1:9 when God gave Joshua his marching orders to cross the Jordan God said, "Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with

you wherever you go".

Just as God was with Joshua he is with us – the soldiers on patrol, coalition partners from so many countries, soldiers in motor pools keeping all the vehicles maintained, moms and dads, brothers and sisters back home. God is with us all. God is with us through times of uncertainty, struggle, and even war. In the last part of Hebrews 13:5 God reminds us, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you". Then verse 6 is the capstone, "So we say with confidence, 'the Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me' "? God has a purpose for every situation and circumstance. Nothing is outside of God's control – NOTHING!

In times of both war and peace, soldiers and citizens have the duty to pray, intercede, and give thanks for the leadership of the Army and our countries leadership. Saint Paul clearly told Timothy, "I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:1-4). How much more - now that we are scattered all over the Middle East - should we Christian soldiers and Christian Americans be on our knees, prayerfully supporting our military authorities, our governmental leaders, and one another as soldiers. Our response should be the same as Jehoshaphat as he faced battle – he "turned his attention to seek the LORD". Why not even follow his example by fasting when we pray. "Alarmed, Jehoshaphat resolved to inquire of the LORD, and he proclaimed a fast for all Judah" (1 Chronicles 20:3).

Remember, no Trooper leaves post without someone back home praying for his safe return from the frontier.





ORDER OF SAINT GEORGE INDUCTION CEREMONY

THERE WILL BE AN INDUCTION CEREMONY WITH DATE AND TIME TBD.

Request that all members identify themselves by contacting the POC below.

Once the Date and time have been identified you will be contacted for attendance.

POC: SGT 1st CLASS CHRIS FOLEY @ 822-4767





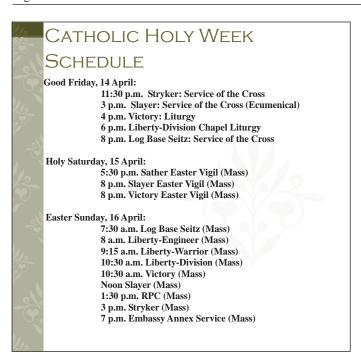
ATTENTION ALL ARMY NATIONAL GUARD SOLDIERS

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A TAX FREE LUMP SUM BONUS UP TO \$15,000.00?

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR RETENTION NCO OR S1 FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE CONTACT THE NATIONAL GUARD THEATER CAREER COUNSELOR BELOW

MASTER SGT. LISA PORILLO-BIRKHEAD BLDG #135, CAMP VICTORY DSN: 318-822-3774

E-MAIL: <u>lisa.porillobirkhead@iraq.centcom.mil</u> or <u>lisa.porillo@us.army.mil</u>



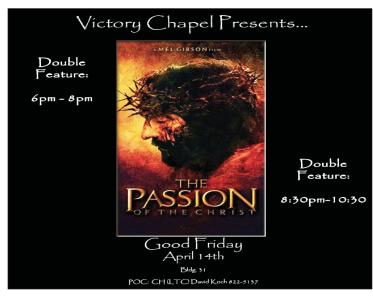


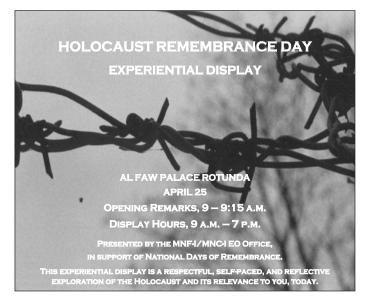
Orthodox Holy Days Mini Chapel April 12, 19 Wednesday Great Lent Service-1800-1900 Lazarus Saturday- 1000-1100 April 15th Palm Sunday Evening- 1600-1700 Saturday Vespers- 1700-1800 Holy Wednesday- 1700-1800 April 19th Pascha Vespers- 1215-1315 April 23rd Holy Thursday- 0900-1000 & 1720-1820 Ascension Vespers- 1715-1815 May 31st April 20th Holy Friday- 1500-1600 & 2000-2100 April 21st Ascension 0900-1000 June 1st Holy Saturday- 1000-1100 & 2330-0200 April 22nd -23rd

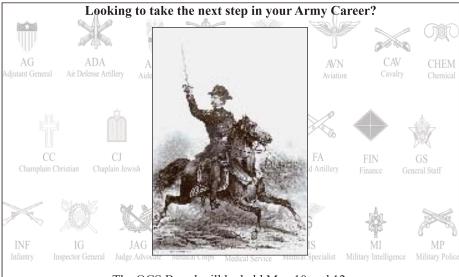


U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Laurence Lang, MNC-I PAO

Chaplain (Cmdr.) Mitchell Schranz, Multi-National Force-Iraq chaplain, leads the Passover Seder at the Joint Visitors Bureau at Camp Victory, Wednesday. Passover is the 8 day observance commemorating the freedom and exodus of the Israelites from Egypt during the reign of the Pharaoh Ramses II.







The OCS Board will be held May 10 and 12.

The OCS packets will be accepted by the PSB between 15 April and 1 May 2006. The APFT date must be after 31 Dec 2005 and the packet must be complete. Any packets turned in after 1 May will not be accepted for the May Board but will be held for the next board.



PRESENTS

HUMAN RELATIONS AND SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE PROGRAM TRAINING

LOCATION
AL FAW PALACE BALLROOM

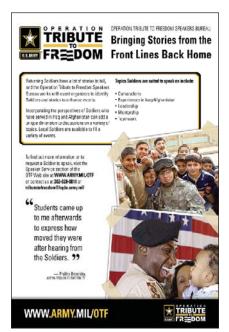
<u>DATES</u> <u>TIME</u> April 20 *9 – 11 a.m. April 26 1 – 3 p.m.

* DENOTES CHANGE

PROMOTING DIGINITY AND RESPECT THROUGHOUT THE FORCE

POINT OF CONTACT FOR THIS TRAINING IS THE MNC-I HR/EO OFFICE @ 822-3532/3545







Spring Holiday Promotion!

Call Your Friends and Family for FREE!

Effective Dates:
April 11 - 17
Begins at 8 a.m. on the 11th

Location:
Victory South,
next to the Oasis DFAC



Letters from home

Dear Daddy, Sgt. David Pratt, MNC-I,

I am still so small, but that doesn't t matter at all. Mommy shows me pictures every day, so all I can say is, "My Daddy is such a brave man and me, Elias, I am his biggest fan!!!!"

We love and miss you David, you're the best hubby and father.

Nina & Elias

Operating hours

Coalition Cafe

Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m. Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Dinner 5:30 - 8 p.m. Midnight Dining 11 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m. Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Dinner 5 - 9 p.m.

Sports Oasis

Shopette

Open 24 Hours

Camp Liberty Post Exchange Everyday 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Fitness Center

Open 24 Hours

Post Office

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sunday 1 - 5 p.m.

Golby Troop Medical Clinic Sick Call Hours:

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. - noon **Dental Sick Call:**

Monday - Friday 7:30 - 10:30 a.m. Saturday 9 - 10:30 a.m.

Mental Health Clinic:

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. - noon

Post Deployment Health Briefings:

Monday - Friday 1 p.m.

Pharmacy:

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon, 1 - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday 7:30 a.m. - noon **Legal Assistance/Claims**

Saturday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Friday 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Personnel Service Support Centers

Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

ID Cards

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.





TO THE AL FAW PALACE POST OFFICE

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Wed. 2 - 8 p.m. Sun. 2 - 8 p.m.

Contact Camp Liberty Post Office for any questions. DSN 302-242-4391

Is container management a pain in your neck? One call, that's all! We can help ease your pain.



Container management made easy by utilizing the Container Management Support Tool (CMST). An easy to use web based program designed to ease your container management troubles. Contact us to coordinate training, Just give us a call, we're here to help!



Lt Col Kennington bert.kennington@irag.centcom. 318-822-5419

Master Sgt. Johnson micheal johnson@irag.centcom.mi 318-822-5317

ANZAC DAY - 10km FUN

RUN April 23

Location: Australia Island (The Pool) Registration: 6:30 a.m. Start time: 7:30 a.m.



Presentation and Breakfast: 9 a.m. at the Island – Bring a towel for a swim after the race.

Prizes for the first five Males and Females Free Aussie tee-shirt for the First 150 finishers

ANZAC - Australian and New Zealand Army Corps
25 April - ANZAC DAY - the day that Australians around the world remember
the sacrifices of the servicemen and women of the armed forces of Australia and
all nations that have preserved freedom by paying the ultimate price. Join the
Aussies as we remember.

LEST WE FORGET







THE ARMY RESERVE HAS EXTENDED THE SRB BONUS FOR RESERVISTS WITH UNDER 20 YEARS OF SERVICE AND WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF ETS SEE YOUR ARMY RESERVE CAREER COUNSELOR

> LOCATED AT BUILDING 123 NEXT TO THE MWR AT VICTORY BASE STAFF SGT. ELSA CARDOZA 318-822-4622

Elsa.cardoza@iraq.centcom.mil



TAX ASSISTANCE CENTER NOW OPEN!



PLACE: EDUCATION CENTER, CAMP VICTORY HOURS: Monday, Wednesday, AND Friday 9 a.m.- 12 p.m.

DRING YOUR W-2's AND OTHER PERTINENT DOCUMENTATION! WE ARE HERE TO ASSIST YOU IN FILING TAXES. FOR QUESTIONS CALL DSN 318-822-5584.

NOTE: THIS PROGRAM IS FOR SERVICE MEMBERS ONLY

VICTORY!

Submit letters from home

Is your loved one deployed in support of Multi-National Corps-Iraq? Would you like to write him or her a message in the Victory Times? Send messages, three to four lines of text to brian.anderson@iraq.centcom.mil.

Ensure to include Soldiers name, rank, and unit.

Victory Times welcomes columns, commentaries, articles and letters from our readers. Send submissions or comments to brian.anderson@iraq.centcom.mil.

We reserve the right to edit for security, accuracy, propriety, policy, clarity and space.

DRIVE SAFELY!!

This driver was wearing his seat belt, driving within the speed limit and he was



The driver of this vehicle had his life tragically altered by a reckless driver Don't be the OTHER driver!!

MNC-I Commanding General: Lt. Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli
MNC-I Public Affairs Officer: Lt. Col. Michelle L. Martin-Hing
MNC-I PA Sergeant Major: Sgt. Maj. Paul J. Stevenson
MNC-I Command Info Chief: Sgt. 1st Class Laurence R. Lang
MNC-I Production Chief: Staff Sgt. Jason B. Baker
Victory Times Editor: Spc. Brian J. Anderson
Victory Times Staff writer/ photographers: Sgt. Edward T. Conning,
Spc. James P. Hunter, Spc. Curtis W. Squires, Lance Cpl. Drew Hendricks

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